REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the following discussion, the Applicants submit that none of the claims now pending in the application are anticipated under the provisions of 35 USC § 102(b). Thus, the Applicants believe that all of these claims are now in allowable form.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues in any of the claims now pending in the application, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner telephone Ms. Janet M. Skafar, Esq. at telephone number (650) 988-0655 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Status of Claims

Claims 1, 4, 7-9, 12, 15-17, 20, and 21-30 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13, 14, 18 and 19 are canceled. Claims 21-30 are new.

The Rejection of the Claims Under 35 USC § 102(b)

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 USC § 102 (b) as being anticipated by the Osborn et al. patent (U.S. Patent No. 6,249,791), hereinafter referred to as Osborn. In response, Claims 1, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16 and 17 are amended to more particularly point out the invention.

Applicants respectfully maintain that Osborn does not teach, explicitly or implicitly, each and every element as claimed. Claim 1 recites: A computer-implemented method of collecting statistics in a database management system comprising a plurality of collection objects having a plurality of tables, at least one particular collection object of

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the plurality of collection objects comprising a plurality of particular tables of the
plurality of tables, comprising: receiving a workload comprising a plurality of database
queries referencing the plurality of tables, at least two of the database queries that are
different referencing a same table of the plurality of tables;

for each database query of the plurality of database queries of the workload:

      identifying query statistics for said each database query of the plurality of
database queries, the query statistics comprising a number of references to at least one
table of said each database query and a number of occurrences of said each database
query; and consolidating, for said each database query, the query statistics to provide
consolidated statistics comprising at least one cumulative table score for said at least one
table, respectively, wherein said at least one cumulative table score for said at least one
table is based on a previous at least one cumulative table score, if any, for said at least
one table and a product of the number of references to said at least one table of said each
database query and the number of occurrences of said each database query; and

      generating a plurality of statistics collection tasks to collect database
statistics to be used by an optimizer based on the consolidated statistics, the plurality of
statistics collection tasks to collect the database statistics on the plurality of tables
referenced by the plurality of database queries of the workload, the plurality of statistics
collection tasks being based on a plurality of collection objects comprising the plurality of
tables referenced by the plurality of database queries of the workload, a plurality of
collection object scores are determined for the plurality of collection objects comprising
the plurality of tables referenced by the plurality of database queries of the workload,
each collection object score for each collection object is based on said at least one
cumulative table score for said at least one table of said each collection object, wherein
the plurality of statistics collection tasks are ordered based on the plurality of collection
object scores.

      Applicants respectfully maintain that Osborn does not teach the
cumulative table score of the claimed invention. Osborn does not teach that at least one

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cumulative table score for said at least one table is based on a previous at least one cumulative table score, if any, for said at least one table and a product of the number of references to said at least one table of said each database query and the number of occurrences of said each database query. Applicants respectfully maintain that Osborn does not teach that each collection object score for each collection object is based on said at least one cumulative table score for said at least one table of said each collection object. Applicants respectfully maintain that Osborn does not teach generating a plurality of statistics collection tasks to collect database statistics to be used by an optimizer. Applicants respectfully maintain that Osborn does not teach that the plurality of statistics collection tasks are ordered based on the plurality of collection object scores.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully maintain that Osborn does not teach, explicitly or implicitly, all the recitations of Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully maintain that Claim 1 is not anticipated by Osborn and is patentable.

Claims 4, 7 and 8 depend from Claim 1, and are patentable for the same reasons as Claim 1.

Claims 9 and 17 have similar distinguishing recitations as Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully maintain the Claims 9 and 17 are patentable for the same reasons as Claim 1.

Claims 12, 15, and 16 depend from Claim 9 and are patentable for the same reasons as Claims 9. Claim 20 depends from Claim 17, and is patentable for the same reasons as Claim 17.
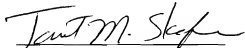
New Claims 21-30

New claims 21-24, 25-28 and 29-30 depend from claims 1, 9 and 17, respectively, and have additional distinguishing recitations. Therefore new claims 21-24, 25-28 and 29-30 are believed to be patentable.

Conclusion

Consequently, the Applicants believe that all these claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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